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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Soviet Activity along the Iranian Border

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The following is a summary of Soviet military activity and rail traffic along the Soviet-Iranian border during the period 20-25 August 1951.

1. Pol Dasht

20 August

Westbound rail traffic, Dzhulfa to Nakhichevan: One freight train composed of an unstated number of boxcars carrying sand and gasoline; one passenger train.

Eastbound rail traffic, Nakhichevan to Dzhulfa: One freight train which included an unstated number of passenger cars; one passenger train; one train composed of an unstated number of cars among which were two carloads of mortars.

Eastbound rail traffic, Yerevan to Nakhichevan: One freight train and one passenger train.

24 August

Westbound rail traffic, Ordubad to Dzhulfa: Four passenger and freight trains carrying wood, lumber, and gasoline tanks.

Eastbound rail traffic, Dzhulfa to Ordubad: Four passenger and freight trains composed of an unstated number of passenger cars, gondolas, and tank cars.

East and westbound rail traffic, between Dzhulfa and Ordubad: Five trains of unknown make-up.

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2. Dzhulfa

21 August

Westbound rail traffic, Ordubad to Dzhulfa and Nakhichevan: Two passenger trains; two freight trains composed of 37 boxcars, 32 tank cars, and seven gondolas, among which were observed lumber, armored cars, 17 trucks, two jeeps, and 72 soldiers.

Eastbound rail traffic, Dzhulfa and Nakhichevan to Ordubad: One freight train and three trains at night.

Eastbound road traffic, Nakhichevan to Dzhulfa: One auto; 52 soldiers.

During the past 24 hours about 300 Soviet soldiers exercised with 75 mm guns and seven mortars north of Dzhulfa.

24 August

Westbound rail traffic, Ordubad to Nakhichevan: Two trains during the day and three trains during the night.

Eastbound rail traffic, Nakhichevan to Ordubad: Four passenger and freight trains carrying wood, lumber, and gasoline tanks.

Ten trucks carrying 80 armed soldiers and one 75 mm gun arrived in Dzhulfa.

3 Sia Rud

21 August

Westbound rail traffic, Baku to Dzhulfa: Four trains carrying gasoline and lumber.

Eastbound rail traffic, Dzhulfa to Baku: Two freight trajns.

24 August

Westbound rail traffic, Baku to Dzhulfa: Three trains composed of an unstated number of passenger cars, freight cars, and tank cars.

Eastbound rail traffic, Dzhulfa to Baku: Two freight and passenger cars (sic).

4. Khuda Afarin

22 August

Westbound rail traffic, Baku to Dzhulfa: Two trains composed of an unstated number of gondolas carrying timber and gasoline.

Eastbound rail traffic, Dzhulfa to Baku: One freight train composed of tank cars and empty cars; 13 massenger cars (sic).

25 August

Westbound rail traffic, Baku to Dzhulfa: Two passenger and freight trains.

Eastbound rail traffic, Dzhulfa to Baku: Four passenger and freight trains.

5. Namin

21 August

Twenty-five Soviet soldiers from the post of Cloose opened fire with heavy machine guns toward Abu Darreh (not located).

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6. Astara

21 August

Southbound road traffic, Lenkoran to Astara: Seven carts carrying barbed wire and 40 armed soldiers; 19 trucks carrying lime, hay, foodstuffs, and wood.

Northbound road traffic, Astara to Lenkoran: Eleven trucks carrying cans and empty barrels; three jeeps and 30 soldiers.

Westbound road traffic, Astara to Masjed Mahalleh: Three trucks, five carts, and 12 soldiers.

Eastbound road traffic, Masjed Mahalleh to Astara: Two trucks, eight soldiers, and two jeeps.

Westbound road traffic, Masjed Mahalleh to the last post west: Twelve armed soldiers, eight carts

Southbound road traffic, Lenkoran to Astara: Forty trucks carrying 88 armed soldiers, flour, and wood; four jeeps carrying seven officers.

Northbound road traffic, Astara to Lenkoran: Fourteen trucks carrying 35 civilians and foodstuffs.

Westbound road traffic, Astara to Masjed Mahalleh: Sixteen trucks carrying wood and food; 30 armed soldiers and eight workers.

Eastbound road traffic, Masjed Mahalleh to Astara Seven trucks carrying 30 workers, poles, and wire; 14 soldiers with shovels; six carts carrying food, flour, and logs.

Westbound road traffic, Masjed Mahalleh to the last post west: Fourteen trucks carrying 50 armed soldiers, flour, and wood.

Eastbound road traffic, the last post west to Masjed Mahalleh: Ten carts carrying wood and logs

Southbound road traffic, Lenkoran to Astara: Twenty-one trucks carrying 36 civilians, 27 armed soldiers, chairs and tables; four jeeps carrying six officers; four carts carrying barbed wire and telegraph poles and wire.

Northbound road traffic, Astara to Lenkoran: Nine trucks carrying food and wood; six carts carrying 28 armed soldiers.

Westbound road traffic, Astara to Masjed Mahallel Eight trucks carrying chairs and desks; 28 unarmed soldiers carrying shovels; nine carts carrying barbed wire.

Eastbound road traffic, Masjed Mahalleh to Astar Four trucks carrying food; three jeeps carrying two officers; 11 carts.

Westbound road traffic, Masjed Mahalleh to the last post west: Fourteen armed soldiers and barbed wire (sic).

Eastbound road traffic, the last post west to Masjed Mahalleh: Five carts of food and three jet

22 August

23 August

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7. Lutfabad

23 August

Westbound rail traffic, Kaakha to Ashkhabad: Eight freight trains carrying rails and tankers (sic).

Eastbound rail traffic, Ashkhabad to Kaakha: Four freight trains carrying rails and tankers (sic).